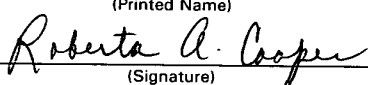




Appl. Ser. No. 09/850,324  
Atty. Dkt. No. 044829-0127

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: McDonald, et al  
Title: ANTIMICROBIAL POLYMER  
Appl. No.: 09/850,324  
Filing Date: 05/07/2001  
Examiner: Ana Lucrecia Woodward  
Art Unit: 1714

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service's "Express Mail Post Office To Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated below and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.	
EV 227047832 US (Express Mail Label Number)	07/25/03 (Date of Deposit)
Roberta A. Cooper (Printed Name)	
 (Signature)	

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JUL 29 2003  
GROUP 1700

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Box NON-FEE AMENDMENT  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed June 25, 2003, Applicants hereby provisionally elect Group I, including Claims 1-19, 45, 47 and 49-51. In the Amendment which follows, Applicants have amended claims 20-25 to depend from claim 1, and Applicants respectfully request that amended claims 20-25 remain under consideration in this application. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the claims in Group II – VII in subsequent continuations or divisions.

In response to the election of species requirement, Applicants hereby provisionally elect: (i) the species recited in Example 1a (*i.e.*, describing a polymer synthesized from maleic acid mono-ethyl ether, tetradecylamine, and pentaethylenhexamine); (ii) copper metal as an antimicrobial agent; and (iii) tetrakis-(hydroxymethyl) phosphonium chloride as a crosslinking agent.

Please enter the Amendment which follows.

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

The amendments presented below are in compliance with the revised amendment format permitted in the Notice from the Office of Patent Legal Administration of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office dated February 10, 2003. Thus, the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(a), (b), (c) and (d) are waived for amendments made in this application to the claims, specification, and drawings.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this document.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 14 of this document.